

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. – 84. (Canceled).

85. (Currently Amended) A home media system comprising:

network;

acquisition storage set-top box, coupled to said network, for storing at least one

digital data content object comprising an executable file;

control/playback set-top box, coupled to said network, comprising a media

playback module and a media control module, said media control module

comprising an applications module for accessing, across said network, at

least one digital data content object from said acquisition storage set-top

box, and for running at least one media application that provides

functionality, through a user interface, to play media, said media playback

module ~~comprising a decoder for executing decoding media comprised in~~

~~in~~ said digital data content object comprising an executable file; and

client device, coupled to said control/playback set-top box, for displaying said

user interface for said media application and for playing media comprised

in said digital data content object.

86. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said acquisition storage set-top box further for acquiring said digital data content object external to said network.

87. (Canceled)

88. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said control/playback set-top box comprises a personal computer system.

89. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said playback module of said control/playback set-top box comprises a frame buffer.

90. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, further comprising a personal digital assistant (“PDA”) for receiving user input to control said control/playback set-top box.

91. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, further comprising a personal computer for organizing a plurality of digital data content objects stored on said acquisition storage set-top box.

92. (Currently Amended) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, ~~further comprising control access at said control/playback set-top box for identifying said user and for restricting access to digital data content objects based on said user. wherein the control/playback set-top box further comprises an access control module for receiving, from a remote control, a user request for a particular digital data content object and for extracting a unique identification of the remote control from the user request, said unique identification being used to restrict access to the particular digital data content object.~~

93. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, further comprising:

digital device for accessing digital data stored on a digital medium; and
device interface, coupled to said digital device, for decoding said digital data and
for transmitting said digital data on said network.

94. – 100. (Cancelled).

101. (Currently Amended) A home media system comprising:

network;

control and acquisition storage set-top box, coupled to said network, for storing a
plurality of different types of ~~digital data content objects executable files~~
~~comprising video, audio, and image files~~, said control and acquisition
storage set-top box comprising a media control module for accessing, for
transmission on said network, at least one type of said ~~digital data content~~
~~object executable file~~, and for running at least one of a plurality of media
applications ~~suitable for said type of executable file on a client device~~
~~based on said type of digital data content object~~;

playback set-top box, coupled to said network, for receiving said ~~digital data~~
~~content object executable file~~ from said control and acquisition storage
set-top box, said playback set-top box ~~comprising a decoder for executing~~
~~decoding media comprised in said digital data content object executable~~
~~file~~; and

client device, coupled to said playback set-top box, for displaying output from

said media application and for playing media comprised in said ~~digital data content object executable file~~.

102. (Currently Amended) The home media system as set forth in claim 101, wherein said acquisition storage set-top box further for acquiring said ~~digital data content object executable file~~ external to said network.

103. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said media application comprises a photo application for viewing digital data content objects that comprise digital photo files.

104. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said media application comprises a video application for playing digital data content objects that comprise digital video files.

105. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said media application comprises an audio application for playing digital data content objects that comprises digital audio files.

106. (Currently Amended) A home media system comprising:
 network;
 acquisition storage set-top box, coupled to said network, for storing a plurality of different types of digital data content objects comprising video, image, or audio digital data content objects;

 control/playback set-top box, coupled to said network, comprising a media

playback module and a media control module, said media control module comprising an applications module for accessing, across said network, at least one digital data content object ~~of at least one type~~ from said acquisition storage set-top box, and for running at least one of a plurality of media applications suitable for said type of digital data content object, said media playback module comprising a decoder for decoding media comprised in said digital data content object; and

display client device, coupled to said control/playback set-top box, for playing video or image media comprised in said video or image digital data content object objects in accordance with said media application; and

audio client device, coupled to said control/playback set-top box, for playing audio media comprised in audio digital data content objects, wherein said audio client device is configured to only play audio media in audio digital data content objects and not being configured to play video or image media in video or image digital data content objects.

107. (Currently Amended) The home media system as set forth in claim 106, wherein said ~~type of digital data content object~~ comprises a ~~digital photo file~~ and said media application comprises a photo application for viewing ~~said digital photo files~~ image digital data content objects, a video application for playing video digital data content objects, or an audio application for playing audio digital data content objects.

108. (Canceled)

109. (Canceled)

110. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 106, wherein said acquisition storage set-top box further for acquiring said digital data content object external to said network.

111. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 106, wherein said control/playback set-top box comprises a personal computer system.

112. (New) The home media system as set forth in claim 106, wherein said audio client device comprises a stereo system.

113. (New) The home media system as set forth in claim 106, wherein the control/playback set-top box further comprises an access control module for receiving, from a remote control, a user request for a particular digital data content object and for extracting a unique identification of the remote control from the user request, said unique identification being used to restrict access to the particular digital data content object.

114. (New) The home media system as set forth in claim 101, wherein the control and acquisition storage set-top box further comprises an access control module for receiving, from a remote control, a user request for a particular executable file and for extracting a unique identification of the remote control from the user request, said unique identification being used to restrict access to the particular executable file.